Dear Congressman Gonzalez,

We are reaching out now that the House is back in session and Congress works to get BBB back on track to ask you to ensure that any final version of BBB includes a fix to the coverage gap, just as you did in the House-passed bill. We recognize that there may be some changes to the House-passed version of BBB for it to pass the Senate, and understand some policymakers are proposing to scale the legislation back significantly. We also noticed that this <u>quote</u> from the White House on BBB priorities excluded any mention of the coverage gap. While this statement probably wasn't intended to cover all of the White House's BBB priorities, we ask you to take this opportunity to communicate with Speaker Pelosi and the White House to reiterate that a coverage gap fix must be included in any final agreement on BBB.

We also ask that you urge the leadership of the Hispanic Caucus and the New Democrat Coalition to ensure closing the coverage gap remains a caucus priority in any new negotiations. Our people cannot wait for access to life-saving healthcare. For your reference, the Southerners for Medicaid Expansion Coalition sent these emails to congressional leadership as well as leaders of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and the New Democrat Coalition on Dec 21st regarding the critical importance of closing America's coverage gap for low-income people who are predominantly in communities of color.

We thank you for your active support to close the Medicaid coverage gap. It is critical that we take the opportunity created by BBB to close this devastating coverage gap for nearly one million Texans.

Sincerely,

Change Happens! Children's Defense Fund -Texas **Cover Texas Now** East Texas Human Needs Network Every Texan **MHA-Greater Dallas** NAMI Texas **NASW** Texas Panhandle Community Services The Afiya Center The Sick Of It TX campaign **Texans Care for Children Texas Hospital Association Texas Medical Association Texas Organizing Project** United Way Tarrant County Voces Unidas- Rio Grande Valley Young Invincibles